



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

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NOV 27 2012

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
CLEANUP

David C. Swink, Director
Environmental Public Health
Spokane Regional Health District
1101 West College Avenue
Spokane, Washington 99201-2095

Re: Freeman School District #358, Spokane County, Washington
Contamination at Freeman School Campus Well PWS ID# 26460

Dear Mr. Swink:

Thank you for your letter dated November 13, 2012. In your letter, you requested support from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in investigating the source of contamination to the Freeman School campus' drinking water source. The EPA has also received requests from the Washington Department of Health and the Washington Department of Ecology.

As you may be aware, a preliminary assessment of the Freeman School Groundwater Contamination site will be completed by the EPA in approximately six months. A PA involves the collection and review of readily available information about the site and its surrounding area. The PA is designed to distinguish, based on available data, between sites that pose little or no threat to human health and the environment and sites that pose a threat and require further investigation. If the PA results in a recommendation for further investigation, a site investigation, which involves the collection of environmental samples, generally is performed. Monica Tonel of EPA will be lead on this PA.

Additionally, EPA has been informed of a grant that has been awarded to the Freeman School by the Washington Department of Health. The funds are specifically to support an ongoing alternative water source feasibility study for the Freeman School District.

Lastly, you also requested the EPA's assistance in the local effort to providing safe drinking water to the Freeman School campus in order to sustain the ongoing functions of that school and in the interests of public health in Spokane County, Washington. We discussed your request with the Washington Department of Health and since they are the lead agency for drinking water in the state of Washington, they are the appropriate entity to whom your request should be addressed.



Due to the interest of multiple agencies in the Freeman School Groundwater Contamination site, the EPA will arrange for a conference call every other month in order to ensure that agencies are informed of the status of ongoing efforts. I look forward to speaking with you on our January call. If you have any additional questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 206 553-8513 or Ms. Tonel at 206 553-0323.

Sincerely,

Diane Dettling

Diane Dettling, On-Scene Coordinator
Emergency Response Unit
Office of Environmental Cleanup

cc: Randy Russell, Superintendent, Freeman School District #358
Kirk Lally, Facilities Supervisor, Freeman School District #358
Bryony Stasney, Source Water Quality Program Manager, WA DOH
Kitty Weisman, Source Water Protection Manager, WA DOH
Edward Parry, Regional Engineer, WA DOH
Michael LaScuola, Spokane Regional Health District
Mike Hibbler, Eastern Region Section Manager, WA Department of Ecology
Phil Leinart, Hydrogeologist, WA Department of Ecology
Ted Benson, Environmental Specialist, WA Department of Ecology